

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-13 DHA-02 AID-05 /074 W

-----051500Z 068079 /43

P R 041154Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4730

INFO AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

C O N F I D E N T I A L KIGALI 383

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, RW, CG,

SUBJECT: RWANDA AND ZAIRE'S SHABA PROBLEM

REF (A) STATE 66446, (B) BUJUMBURA 334, (C) GRIBBIN/CRIGLER

LTR 3/23/77

1. FOR PAST WEEK, I HAVE SOUGHT UNSUCCESSFULLY TO TRACK DOWN FONMIN NSEKALIJE AND DELIVER MESSAGE (PER REF. A) URGING THAT GOR MAKE KNOWN PUBLICLY AND PRIVATELY ITS WORRIES OVER SHABA SITUATION AND IMPORTANCE OF SUPPORT FOR NIGERIAN MEDIATION. UNFORTUNATELY, FON MIN HAS BEEN SUCCESSIVELY EN MISSION (TO KINSHASA) AND EN CONGE.

2. HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF AF/C'S IMPRESSION (REF. C) THAT GOR HAS HESITATED IN ITS SUPPORT FOR MOBUTU AND HIS PROBLEM WITH MERCS AND KTANGANS, I WANT TO STRESS THAT NSEKALIJE BECAME WORKED UP ABOUT THAT SITUATION WELL BEFORE WE DID. AS I POINTED OUT IN KIGALI'S 309 AND 320 (LIMDIS), FONMIN FELT USG WAS GIVING TOO LITTLE SUPPORT TO ITS FRIENDS, SPECIFICALLY INCLUDING ZAIRE, AND TOO LITTLE ATTENTION TO IMPLICATIONS OF SOVIET/CUBAN SUPPORT FOR ITS "ENEMIES" AS ALSO REPORTED IN LATTER MSG, NSEKALIJE TRAVELED TO
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KINSHASA TO OBTAIN FIRST-HAND INFO ABOUT SITUATION AND TO DELIVER MESSAGE OF SUPPORT FROM PRES. HABYARIMANA--A TESTIMONIAL WHICH WAS PUBLISHED SUBSEQUENTLY IN LOCAL MEDIA.

3. WITH RESPECT TO IMPRESSING OTHERS WITH SERIOUSNESS OF THAT SITUATION, ACCORDING TO AMB. MARK'S REPORT (REF B) OF HIS STOPOVER IN BUJUMBURA, NSEKALIJE TOOK PAINS TO EMPHASIZE

TO GOB SERIOUS NATURE OF ZAIRE SITUATION AND, I PRESUME, TO
URGE ITS SUPPORT FOR MOBUTU--THIS, OF COURSE, WITHOUT MY
HAVING GOT TO HIM WITH INSTRUCTIONS URGING HIM TO DO SO.

4. IN SUM, GOR BEAT US TO THE PUNCH IN MANIFESTING CONCERN
ABOUT SHABA INCURSION AND DEMONSTRATING SUPPORT FOR ZAIRE.
MOREOVER, WHEN I FINALLY HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO DELIVER MY
REFTEL PITCH TO NSEKALIJE, I AM CERTAIN HE WILL REPLY THAT,
CONTRARY TO OUR VIEW, IT IS NOT RPT NOT "ESSENTIALLY AFRICAN
PROBLEM" (THOUGH HE AND OTHER AFRICANS VERY AGITATED) BUT IN
FACT A SOVIET/CUBAN BID FOR INFLUENCE DEMANDING A MORE
ENERGETIC U.S. RESPONSE.
CRIGLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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